



National Household Survey on Drug Abuse, 1985

Bibliographic Description

Title: National Household Survey on Drug Abuse, 1985

Alternate Title: NHSDA 1985

Principal Investigator(s): United States Department of Health and Human Services. National Institutes of Health. National Institute on Drug Abuse

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Scope of Study

Summary: This series measures the prevalence and correlates of drug use in the United States. The surveys are designed to provide quarterly, as well as annual, estimates. Information is provided on the use of illicit drugs, alcohol, tobacco, and nonmedical use of prescription drugs among members of United States households aged 12 and older. Questions include age at first use as well as lifetime, annual, and past-month usage for the following drug classes: cannabis, cocaine, hallucinogens, heroin, inhalants, alcohol, tobacco, nonmedical use of prescription drugs including psychotherapeutics, and polysubstance use. Respondents were also asked about health conditions, substance abuse treatment history, problems resulting from their use of drugs, alcohol, and tobacco, their perceptions of the risks involved, and personal and family income sources and amounts. Demographic data include gender, race, age, ethnicity, marital status, motor vehicle use, educational level, job status, income level, veteran status, past and current household composition, and population density.

Subject Term(s): alcohol abuse, alcohol consumption, amphetamines, barbiturates, cocaine, drug abuse, drug use, drugs, hallucinogens, heroin, households, inhalants, marijuana, methamphetamine, prescription drugs, sedatives, smoking, stimulants, substance abuse, substance abuse treatment, tobacco use, tranquilizers, youths

Geographic Coverage: United States

Time Period: 1985

Date(s) of Collection: 1985-06 - 1985-12

Unit of Observation: individual

Universe: The civilian, noninstitutionalized population of the coterminous United States (Alaska and Hawaii excluded) aged 12 and older.

Data Type: survey data

Data Collection Notes: Data were collected by the Temple University Institute for Survey Research, Philadelphia, PA, under contract with the National Institute on Drug Abuse. The data and codebook were prepared for release by Research Triangle Institute, Research Triangle Park, NC, and the codebook was initially distributed by National Opinion Research Center, Chicago, IL, under contracts with the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.

For selected variables, statistical imputation was done following logical imputation to replace missing responses. These variables are identified in the codebook as "...LOGICALLY IMPUTED" and "...imputed" for the logical procedure or by the designation "IMPUTATION-REVISED" in the variable label when the statistical procedure was also performed. The names of statistically imputed variables begin with the letters "IR". For each imputation-revised variable there is a corresponding imputation indicator variable that indicates whether a case's value on the variable resulted from an interview response or was imputed by the hot-deck technique. Hot-deck imputation is described on pages 16-17 of the codebook.

Sample weights were constructed following data collection to account for sample households and persons who were not at home or refused to participate. The household sampling weight is the product of four stagewise sampling weights, each of which is equal to the inverse of the selection probability for that stage. Two post-stratification adjustments were made to compensate for differential response rates across demographic subgroups and residual deviation of selected demographic characteristics of the sample from parameter data (based on the 1980 Census).

To protect the confidentiality of respondents, all variables that could be used to identify individuals have been encrypted or collapsed in the public use file. These modifications should not affect analytic uses of the public use file.

Revisions involving the editing of recency-of-use variables and removal of ineligible respondents were made to the original 1985 National Household Survey on Drug Abuse (NHSDA) data file to make it more comparable with later NHSDAs. This resulted in several differences between the original and public use files. Although differences in prevalence estimates are generally small, estimates contained in the National Institute on Drug Abuse publication, 1985 NHSDA MAIN FINDINGS, cannot be replicated using the public use file.

For some drugs that have multiple names, questions regarding the use of that drug may be asked for each distinct name. For example, the use of methedrine and desoxyn are measured separately in this study even though they are both methamphetamine.

Methodology

Sample: Multistage area probability sample design involving four selection stages: (a) primary areas (e.g., counties), (b) area segments within primary areas (e.g., blocks or enumeration districts), (c) listing units within area segments, (d) sample households within listing units, from which one eligible resident (if any) was selected. The three race/ethnic groups were: whites/others, Blacks, and Hispanics. Minorities and younger household members were oversampled. The four age groups were: ages 12 to 17, 18 to 25, 26 to 34, and 35 and older. The probability of selection varied with the composition of the household for different age/ethnicity groups and with the number of residents within the selected age group.

Mode of Data collection: -

Extent of Processing: Performed consistency checks. Standardized missing values. Created online analysis version with question text. Checked for undocumented or out-of-range codes.

Access and Availability

Note: Some instruments administered as part of this study may contain contents from copyrighted instruments. Reproductions of the instruments are provided solely as documentation for the analysis of the data associated with this collection. Please contact the data producers for information on permissions to use the instruments for other purposes.

Restrictions: Users are reminded by the United States Department of Health and Human Services that these data are to be used solely for statistical analysis and reporting of aggregated information and not for the investigation of specific individuals or treatment facilities.

Original Release: 1997-05-16

Version History: The last update of this study occurred on 2015-02-03.

2015-02-03 - Created a separate Questionnaire PDF that was extracted from the Codebook PDF.

2013-06-19 - Updated variable-level ddi files released.

2008-07-25 - New files were added. These files included one or more of the following: Stata setup, SAS transport (CPORT), SPSS system, Stata system, SAS supplemental syntax, and Stata supplemental syntax files, and tab-delimited ASCII data file. Also the variable CASEID was added to the dataset. Some other minor edits were made to improve the data and documentation.

1999-06-16 - SAS and SPSS data definition statements have been updated to include value labels and missing values sections.

Dataset(s): DS1: National Household Survey on Drug Abuse, 1985